

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0529**

HENRY A. WAXMAN  
29TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

**STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE HENRY A. WAXMAN**  
**CHILDRENS HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES**  
**JULY 17, 1995**

I AM DELIGHTED TO JOIN ALL OF YOU THIS MORNING FOR THIS IMPORTANT DEDICATION CEREMONY.

FIRST, I WANT TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION TO THE DEDICATED MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE THE LIFE OF CHILDRENS HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES. EVERY DAY YOU MAKE EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY. YOU GIVE HOPE. YOU TAKE AWAY PAIN. AND, MOST OF ALL, YOU SAVE LIVES.

SINCE 1901, CHILDRENS HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES HAS BECOME A GLOBAL RESOURCE FOR PEDIATRIC CLINICAL CARE, RESEARCH, AND MEDICAL EDUCATION.

IT IS ONE OF OUR NATION'S FEW PEDIATRIC FACILITIES WHERE RESEARCH PERFORMED AT THE LAB BENCH CAN VERY QUICKLY BE INCORPORATED INTO PATIENT CARE AT THE BEDSIDE.

THIS NOT ONLY SAVES LIVES HERE, BUT ALL AROUND THE WORLD. THE BENEFITS OF YOUR WORK ARE SIMPLY IMMEASURABLE. AND GIVEN NEW ADVANCES IN MEDICINE, THERE IS A SEEMINGLY LIMITLESS POTENTIAL FOR NEW TREATMENTS FOR PEDIATRIC CANCERS, INHERITED DISORDERS, AND OTHER DEVASTATING DISEASES OF CHILDHOOD.

WITH REMARKABLE EFFORT YOU ARE OVERCOMING MEDICAL OBSTACLE AFTER MEDICAL OBSTACLE. SADLY, HOWEVER, WE ARE NOW FACING A POLITICAL OBSTACLE THAT COULD IMPERIL YOUR WORK.

THE NEW MAJORITY IN CONGRESS IS PUSHING A BUDGET PLAN THAT SLASHES ALL NON-DEFENSE FUNDING AND PROVIDES FOR A HUGE TAX CUT FOR THE WEALTHY. THESE MISGUIDED PRIORITIES SPELL TROUBLE FOR CHILDRENS HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES.

MANY EXPERTS BELIEVE TEACHING HOSPITALS ARE ON THE VERGE OF CRISIS. COMPETITION FROM HOSPITALS AND MANAGED CARE CONCERNS THAT DON'T HAVE RESEARCH COMPONENTS FORCES THOSE THAT DO TO CUT THEIR RATES TO THE BONE, JEOPARDIZING THE VERY RESEARCH THAT HAS MADE CHILDRENS HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES AND OTHERS LIKE IT SUCH CRITICALLY IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS.

IT IS ABSOLUTELY IMPERATIVE THAT NIH SUPPORT CONTINUE AND THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDES THE FUNDING THAT DRIVES MEDICAL ADVANCES. AS WE DEDICATE THE GENERAL CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER, WE MUST REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO DOING ALL WE CAN TO MEET THE NEEDS OF SERIOUSLY ILL CHILDREN. I WILL WORK AS HARD AS I CAN IN WASHINGTON TO FIND THE FINANCIAL AID YOU NEED, AND I KNOW YOU WILL CONTINUE YOUR INCREDIBLE EFFORTS TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY'S CHILDREN.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR LETTING ME JOIN YOU THIS MORNING. THIS IS A GREAT DAY FOR THE FAMILIES OF LOS ANGELES, AND I CONGRATULATE YOU FOR MAKING YOUR VISION A REALITY.